

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Tomohisa Sakurai, et al.	Examiner: Unassigned
Serial No: Unassigned	Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: Herewith	Docket: 14357A
For: SURGICAL OPERATION SYSTEM	Dated: July 28, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, it is respectfully requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified patent application.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,017,354, dated January 25, 2000, issued to Culp, et al.;
2. Japanese Application Laid Open No. 2000-271135 (P2000-271135A), dated October 3, 2000 together with English language abstract;


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: July 28, 2003


Steven Fischman


3. Japanese Application Laid-Open No. 6-296589, dated October 25, 1994 together with English language abstract;
4. Japanese Application Laid-Open No. 9-38098, dated February 10, 1997 together with English language abstract; and
5. Japanese Application Laid-Open No. 8-164148, dated June 25, 1996 together with English language abstract.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are not provided since they were previously made of record in parent application Serial No. 09/794,864 filed February 27, 2001. The references were cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently with the application on February 27, 2001 and on Form PTO-892 of the Office Action dated November 27, 2002.

Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested, since the information provided herewith may be material to the examination of the present application as defined under 37 C.F.R. §1.56. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been performed or that no other art than that identified herein exists.

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted concurrent with the filing of the present application. Therefore, this filing is made under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1). An Information Disclosure Statement filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1) requires neither certification nor fee.

Respectfully submitted,


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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) 14357A	Application Number Unassigned
	Applicant(s) Tomohisa Sakurai, et al.	
	Filing Date Herewith	Group Art Unit Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,017,354	01/25/00	Culp, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	2000-271135	10/03/00	Japan				
	6-296589	10/25/94	Japan				
	9-38098	02/10/97	Japan				
	8-164148	06/25/96	Japan				

OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.